United Nations A/HRC/31/NGO/36

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 February 2016

English only

Human Rights Council
Thirty-first session
Agenda item 7
Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

Written statement* submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[08 February 2016]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

GE.16-02298(E)

Please recycle

The Health Situation in Israeli Prisons: Prisoners are Field Tests

What distinguishes the Israeli occupation with prisoners is the obvious hatred on those prisoners considering them as terrorists who don't deserve this life, so you can imagine what this jailer do such violations against those prisoners, even they reached to the worse level to undergo a surgery to prisoners without anaesthesia.
So the medical negligence policy has become a programmed and approved policy by the Prison administration, where the number of sick prisoners has reached more than (1200 prisoners) who are suffering from various illnesses, including serious diseases of infected kidney disease, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, paralysis and vision loss.
There are many cases of neurological and psychiatric diseases, and a number of wounded and amputated hands, feet and legs prisoners and all of them are not receiving adequate health care.

The medical negligence led in some cases to many sick prisoners' death, where the last prisoner who died is "" Raed Abdel-Salam Al-Jabari, "35-years, who lived in Al-Ra's town in Hebron, in Eshel prison after his health deteriorated.
Prisoners are aware of prison administration and the Israel's General Security policy which is based on "Slow death penalty policy" as what happened with the martyr Maysara Abu-Humeida", he died because he wasn't treated nor presented to a medical specialized committee to decide or recommend releasing him. The same happened also with the martyr Arafat Jaradat, who died through physical torture during interrogation.
The Israeli prison administration violates the international conventions related to medical and health care for sick detainees, especially Article (92) of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which provides that: "Detainees should be subjected to medical examination once a month, aiming to monitor the detainee's health status, nutrition ,and hygiene, as well as discovering infectious diseases. Furthermore, this examination includes checking detainee's weight and radioscopic examination visits at least once a year. ".

As a result of intentional medical negligence, the number of prisoners' movement martyrs reached to (55) prisoner at the beginning of 2016 which represents 25% of the total number of prisoner movement martyrs who are (207). The last martyr of this movement was Fadi Ali Ahmed Elderbi (30 years) from Jenin. He died in 14/10\2015 because of intentional medical negligence against him.

In addition to dozens of released prisoners who got martyrs after few weeks or months of being released from prison .the last prisoner was Ja'afar Ibrahim YousifAwad (22 years) from Beit Ommar in the north of Hebron. He was killed in the intensive care department in El-Mezan hospital in Hebron on 10\4\2015.

The most important forms of intentional medical neglect as follow:

1. There are a recurring medical carelessness, procrastination, no surgery for sick prisoners. When the sick prisoner colleagues protest, the occupation take him to hospital.
2. There aren't specialist doctors inside the prison such as an ophthalmologists, dentists and ENT doctor.
3. There are no doctor who work at night shift for emergency cases in prisons clinics.
4. There aren't supervisors and psychotherapist because of troubled psychological cases which need special treatment.
5. There aren't isolation rooms for sick prisoners who have contagious diseases such as severe viral enteritis and scabies which spread rapidly between prisoners because of crowding inside prisons.
6. There aren't special rooms for prisoners who suffer from severe psychological diseases which threaten the lives of their roommates.
7. There isn't actual examination for sick prisoners. Doctors talk and treat them behind the nets of doors.
8. There are punishment measures against prisoners which increase the deterioration of their psychological conditions. There are a denial from visits, sudden searches at night, solitary confinement cells and forcing prisoners to take off their clothes.
9. There isn't a specialist for women prisoners. There is only a general practitioner especially if they knew that there are pregnant women in prison who need special medical care.

10. The pregnant prisoners are forced to give birth with tied hands without caring for pains of childbirth. This exactly what happened with MervatTaha from Jerusalem who delivered her child Wael in prison while her hands were tied on her bed. Also, the prisoner Manal Ghanem from Nablus and her child Nour. In additionally, Samar Sbeeh and her child Baraa from Gaza.
11. Give prisoners expired medicines.
12. There is a delay in transferring injured people to hospitals until they die and they are left without treatment.
13. There is Al-Ramla hospital, which is the only hospital for sick prisoners. It lacks to the medical and health basics. It doesn't differ from prison in its measures and cruel treatment to prisoners. There are more than 19 sick prisoners for many years permanently.

Prisoners are used as lab rats

It was not only about medical negligence, but it extended to make a crime by using prisoners as testing ground to experiment some medications, Dalia Isiac, a Knesset member and an Israeli Parliamentary science committee member, revealed in July, 1997 (before 8 years) that there were tests on a thousand case was made to experiment dangerous medications and those annual tests were made on Palestinians. Dalia added that she had about a thousand permit in her office, rather than those permits given by the Israeli Health Ministry, were given and approved to make a thousand tests on Palestinians prisoners.

Amy Liftat, the head of medication section in the Israeli Health Ministry, revealed before the Knesset during the same session that there was an increase of 12% in the amount of permits to make more dangerous tests on Palestinians prisoners every year.
The released prisoner "AbdAlhakimHanini", one of those who were released in the agreement of "Devotion of the free", during the TV program "A witness on this century" at Al-Jazeera TV channel, said that the Israeli medication companies used to make experiments on hundreds of Palestinian patients referring to the fact that many Palestinian prisoners had many diseases due to the effect of medications were given to them, some of them had cancer others had their hair lost.

AbdAlhakim said "Doctors inside prisons were a part of the investigation and torture imposed on Palestinian prisoners who were moved to Israeli hospitals for treatment". He described Ramla prison as a "cemetery". AbdAlhakim said that one of prisoners " Mohammed Abu Hadwan", an old man was sentenced to prison for life, who passed away because of diseases and later his body was handed to his family while he was cuffed in a black plastic bag.
The martyr "Shadi Al-Saida" was detained in a healthy state and after two years of imprisonment, he died because of a medication given to him in prison.

Doctor Jailer
Torture is not only acted by investigators and soldiers, it is also acted by doctors, nurses and the rest of workers in prison.
The doctor who is responsible for checking and examining prisoners knows very well their diseases and how crucial they are. The doctor knows that the sick prisoners need necessary surgeries and treatment, but he refuses to do his job and by this he follows his partners of soldiers and investigators in making more pressure on prisoner and the doctor also writes false medical reports to blackmail prisoners and to ensure there is no chance for them to go out or be released.
What is mentioned previously happened with the prisoner "Ibrahim Al-Jamal" who lost his sight and his ability to speak, at the same time, his health status was deteriorating and becoming worse. To ensure that this prisoner would not be released, the doctor of "Aishel" prison made a false medical report saying that Ibrahim's health was good and at the end of the day, the court refused to issue a release for Ibrahim.
The doctor at Ramla prison made a false report against the prisoner "Mo'tasimRaddad", who suffered cancer. In the report, the doctor claimed thatMo'tasim refused to undergo while the prisons service was ready to treat him, then the court refused to release Mo'taism.

The immoral actions made by doctors in prisons
Treating Palestinian prisoner as a vandal terrorist and does not worth the humanitarian way of treatment like the rest of human-beings, this is noticed in the racist and hatred towards the prisoner by offending them with the worst language and curses during treatment. Besides this, doctor wears a military suit, where the prisoner cannot find any difference between soldiers, investigators and doctors.

Doctors of prisons hide the torture marks on prisoner's bodies before seeing by court and before the arrival of any delegation of Red Cross or Human Rights groups.
Prepare a particular form of prisoner's fitness in which the doctor allocates the weaknesses in the prisoner's body to make it easy for investigators to press on prisoner to force them make confessions.

International Solidarity Campaign Supporting Prisoners and detainees in the Israeli occupation jails "TADAMON", an NGO without consultative status, also shares the views expressed in this statement.